

1 1. (previously presented) A Tiered Trenching Backhoe System comprising:
2 a trenching plate having a transverse bend therein located between substantially planar first and
3 second plate portions of said trenching plate, said trenching plate having first and second end
4 edges oriented substantially parallel to said transverse bend and having lateral side edges
5 extending between said end edges;
6 a first tooth mount secured to said first end edge of the trenching plate and projecting in a
7 direction substantially orthogonal to said first end edge;
8 a second tooth mount secured to said first end edge and projecting from said first end edge in an
9 orientation substantially parallel to the first tooth mount;
10 a first support member secured to one of the lateral edges of the trenching plate, said support
11 member projecting in a direction substantially orthogonal to the second end edge of the trenching
12 plate;
13 a second support member secured to the opposed lateral edge of the trenching plate, said support
14 member projecting in a direction substantially parallel to said first support member; and
15 a planar side member secured to the lateral side edge of the trenching plate adjacent to the
16 second support member and projecting substantially parallel to a plate portion of said trenching
17 plate,
18 wherein said planar side member includes a downward bend therein at a location spaced from
19 said lateral side edge.

1 2. (previously presented) The Tiered Trenching Backhoe System of claim 1, wherein the
2 trenching plate includes:
3 a first triangular coupler secured to the second end edge of said trenching plate and projecting
4 substantially parallel to said tooth mounts;
5 a second triangular coupler secured to the second end edge of said trenching plate and projecting
6 substantially parallel to the first triangular coupler;
7 said first and second triangular couplers being removably attachable to a pair of existing tooth
8 shanks secured to a backhoe bucket.

1 3. (previously presented) The Tiered Trenching Backhoe System of claim 1 additionally
2 comprising a pair of replaceable teeth, each said replaceable tooth being removably attachable to
3 a tooth mount by a pair of teeth tooth coupling pin.

1 4. (previously presented) The Tiered Trenching Backhoe System of claim 1 wherein the
2 plate portions of said trenching plate define an interior angle therebetween of approximately 140
3 degrees.

1 5. (previously presented) The Tiered Trenching Backhoe System of claim 2 wherein the first
2 and second triangular couplers are adapted to connect to the two rightmost existing tooth shanks,
3 the two centermost existing tooth shanks, or the two leftmost existing tooth shanks of a backhoe
4 bucket for forming at least two tiers within a trench dug by said backhoe bucket.

1 6. (previously presented) The Tiered Trenching Backhoe System of claim 1 additionally
2 comprising a second trenching plate having a transverse bend therein located between
3 substantially planar first and second plate portions of said trenching plate, said trenching plate
4 having first and second end edges oriented substantially parallel to said transverse bend and
5 having lateral side edges extending between said end edges;
6 a first tooth mount secured to said first end edge of the trenching plate and projecting in a
7 direction substantially orthogonal to said first end edge;
8 a second tooth mount secured to said first end edge and projecting from said first end edge in an
9 orientation substantially parallel to the first tooth mount;
10 a first support member secured to one of the lateral edges of the trenching plate, said support
11 member projecting in a direction substantially orthogonal to the second end edge of the trenching
12 plate;
13 a second support member secured to the opposed lateral edge of the trenching plate, said support
14 member projecting in a direction substantially parallel to said first support member; and
15 a planar side member secured to the lateral side edge of the trenching plate adjacent to the
16 second support member and projecting substantially parallel to a plate portion of said trenching
17 plate.

1 7. (cancelled).

1 8. (cancelled)

1 9. (cancelled)

1 10. (cancelled).

1 11. (cancelled)

1 12. (amended) The tiered trenching system of claim 13~~44~~ wherein means for coupling a
2 removable replaceable tooth to each of said first and second tooth mounts are included.

1 13. (new) A tiered trenching backhoe system including:

2 a trenching plate having a transverse bend therein located between substantially planar
3 first and second plate portions of said trenching plate and having opposed first and second end
4 edges and having lateral side edges extending between said opposed first and a second end edges
5 oriented substantially parallel to said transverse bend, and wherein said trenching plate, and
6 wherein said first tooth mount is secured to said first plate portion projecting in a direction
7 substantially parallel to said lateral side edges of said first plate portion, and said second tooth
8 mount is secured to said second plate portion and projecting in a direction substantially parallel
9 to said lateral side edges of said second plate portion and spaced from and substantially parallel
10 to said first tooth mount;

11 a first coupler connected adjacent to one end of said plate and a second coupler connected
12 adjacent to said first coupler, said first and second couplers designed to be removably coupled to
13 existing tooth shanks of a backhoe bucket;

14 a first tooth mount secured adjacent to said second end of said trenching plate opposed to
15 said first end and projecting in a direction substantially parallel to said lateral side edges of said
16 trenching plate; and

17 a second tooth mount secured adjacent to said second end of said trenching plate and also
18 projecting in a direction substantially parallel to said lateral side edge of said trenching plate, but
19 spaced from said first tooth mount, each said tooth mount designed to receive removably secured

- 20 spaced apart replaceable trenching teeth, whereby, when said system is attached to existing tooth
21 shanks of a backhoe bucket allows dual separated trench to be created.